News item captioned "Love Babies divide IA"

1501. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn up a news item which appeared in the Statesman of the 8th August, 1986 under the caption "Love Babies divide IA";

(b) what is the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(c) what action Government propose to take against the pilots and Air-hostesses keeping in view the safety of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such instance has come to the notice of Indian Airlines.

(c) Does not arise.

Purchase of Ships by Shipping Corporation of India

1502. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Shipping Corporation of India entered into a contract to acquire ships from a South Korean Company at a higher price than its market price; if so, the details of this transaction;

(b) what action has been taken to save the Shipping Corporation of India of this net loss and what action has been taken against officers responsible for this deal;

(c) whether it is proposed to 'black-list' such foreign suppliers; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Shipping Corporation of India entered into a contract with a South Korean Shipyard for construction of 12 Bulk Carriers in August 1984 on the basis of global tenders received by them. At that time they were the lowest tenderers. In view of the falling world prices of ships, SCI in January 1986 with the approval of the Government, negotiated a reduction in the contracted price and secured a reduction.

(b) to (d) A Committee has been constituted to have a fresh appraisal of the ship acquisition procedures of the Shipping Corporation of India. The Committee will *inter-alia* look into the orders placed by SCI on a South Korean shipyard for 12 Bulk carriers to ascertain whether the orders placed were on competitive rates and were on realistic estimate of freight earnings and will also comment on the future course of action alongwith financial implications on this specific acquisition. Further action, if any, would be initiated after the Committee submits its report.

Bilingual and trilingual dictionaries published by Central Hindi Directorate

1503. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 341 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March, 1986 and state:

(a) what is the number of volumes of bilingual and trilingual dictionaries brought out by the Central Hindi Directorate from March, 1986 todate;

(b) whether it is a fact that the printing of these dictionaries has been delayed because of lack of staff with practical experience of the printing; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to remedy the situation in the Central Hindi Directorate?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Six volumes of three trilingual dictionaries have been brought out since March, 1986. Three bilingual dictionaries are under print.